()

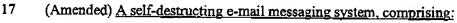
6. (Amended) A self-destructing e-mail messaging system, comprising:

an executable module, the executable module configured to instruct a computer to <u>automatically</u> delete a message to which the executable module is attached when [a predetermined condition is met] the message, based upon a preselected expiration date, is expired;

an e-mail messaging system, the e-mail messaging system configured to create [an] the [e-mail] message and to transmit the [e-mail] message, the e-mail messaging system attaching the executable module to the [e-mail] message prior to transmission.

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14. (Amended) The system according to claim 6, wherein the executable module is configured to begin execution when the [e-mail] message to which it is attached is opened, the executable module deleting the message during said execution if [a predetermined condition is met] the message is expired.



\ \(\sqrt{}\) an executable module, the executable module configured to instruct a computer to automatically delete an e-mail message to which the executable module is attached when a predetermined condition is met. [The system according to claim 15,] wherein said predetermined condition is selected from the group consisting of an attempt to print[ing] the message, an attempt to copy[ing] the message [or] and an attempt to forward[ing] the [e-mail] message:

an e-mail messaging system, the e-mail messaging system configured to create the message and to transmit the message, the e-mail messaging system attaching the executable module to the message prior to transmission.